

CIA Chief Warns of Red 'Parliamentary Conquest'

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By ROBERT K. WALSH

The Kremlin is grasping "fresh opportunities" in Italy, France and Indonesia in a more deceptive and dangerous strategy of parliamentary conquest instead of armed force against free countries, Allen W. Dulles, Central Intelligence Agency director, warned yesterday.

In a 2,500-word analysis for the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Mr. Dulles declared "the danger of parliamentary compromises with the Communists even in Europe is not to be ignored." The threat is greater in Asia, because it is generally less understood, he said.

"The Communists propose to infiltrate our free legislative systems, to take over our parliamentary governments, and to use the freedom which our system of government gives to destroy all vestiges of that system," the CIA head charged.

Should Recognize Danger

"The free world is confronted with the plain fact that a great foreign power with vast resources to back a program of subversion and cajolery proposes to do everything it can to see to it that free governments shall perish. . . . It is well to recognize the danger. On the other hand there is no ground for panic.

"Nowhere outside of the USSR, with the qualified exceptions of Czechoslovakia and Guatemala, have the Communists succeeded in subverting a free government except with the aid of armed force. . . . The Kremlin leaders have told us what they propose to do. It is up to the leaders of the free world, working together as allies and friends, to help to uncover and to frustrate this Communist design which otherwise could threaten to wreck the free institutions of many countries and even endanger our own."

While explaining there is nothing essentially new about the Soviet design for boring into free parliamentary and electoral systems, Mr. Dulles emphasized that it now is the prime purpose of the supposedly more friendly Kremlin leaders.

Principal Targets Now

It is particularly perilous in Italy, France and Indonesia because the strategy already has made headway there and those countries are principal targets at this time, he informed the House committee.

"A recent Indonesian government permitted Communist influence to reach far into the Ministry of Defense," he reported. "More than in Europe, the Communist parties have managed in many countries to acquire a degree of respectability and of acceptance as just another political party.

"The Communists see their greatest opportunities where they now have the strongest penetration into the parliamentary machinery of free governments. In several countries these penetrations are serious."

Notes Parliament Power

Mr. Dulles noted that the 590-member Italian parliament has 143 Communist members. He added that 75 Nenni "fellow-traveling left-wing Socialists," consistently vote and act with the Communists. The French parliament, he recalled, has 150 Communists among its 600 members. In Indonesia, he said, the Communist Party received six million votes, or 17 per cent of the total electorate, last September and have 39 members, or 15 per cent, of the total in the Indonesian Assembly.

Mr. Dulles said that "tucked away in all the oratory" of the Communist Party Congress last February in Moscow were unmistakable pronouncements that the "new look" Kremlin clings to the basic policy and tech-

niques of subverting free governments by infiltration.

The threat of armed aggression has been "blunted" by NATO, SEATO and other parts of "the free world's umbrella of strength almost all the way around the periphery of the Soviet bloc," Mr. Dulles said.

"Of course that does not do the whole job," he continued. "It does tend to channel Soviet activities into the struggle for power by other means. . . . But despite the relatively solid basis for action they have in many countries and the preparations they have been making over the past 10 years, the Communists face real obstacles.

"First, they have alerted us to their program. While people worldwide sometimes seem dangerously complacent and even skeptical, it may yet be possible to rouse them to their dangers. Secondly, the Communists do not have any acknowledged party members in high government positions, of cabinet rank for example, in any of the free coun-

tries even where they have large parliamentary representation.

"The Communists must, however, see some prospects of success in their so-called 'parliamentary means.' They have learned how to manipulate their parliamentary representation once elected and how to get elected. Further, they know quite well what types of parliamentary systems are most vulnerable to their type of subversive action."